

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the examiner for the interview which took place on May 18, 2006. At the interview a production seat cushion was demonstrated and proposed revisions to the claims to differentiate Kenndoff were discussed. The claims herein have been amended pursuant to the interview.

For this amendment, claims 75-80 have been canceled. Features of claims 75-80 are incorporated into claim 70. The application now includes claims 70-74.

Claim 70 describes a seat cushion made up of at least three layers containing at least one of each of a covering, a polyurethane gel layer, and a polyurethane foam layer. This is discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the application.

Claim 70 eliminates the damping and spring language in favor of a more straightforward layer term. This is described on page 3 of the application starting at line 15.

In the office action dated February 16, 2006, claims 70-74 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,844,013 to Kenndoff, claims 75-80 were rejected as being obvious over Kenndoff. The claims as amended would not be obvious over Kenndoff or Kenndoff combined with any reference of record. Each rejection is traversed by the amendments above and the arguments below.

Kenndoff does not disclose a seat cushion design or anything similar. Kenndoff's invention is a foam for wound dressing and medical applications. Claim 70 still requires the molding to be for a seat cushion. Claim 70 has been amended to require no fewer than three layers, a feature not described nor necessary for the Kenndoff wound dressing. Claim 70 also recites the necessity that the polyurethane foam layer and polyurethane gel layer be different materials bonded without any adhesive or other material. This is also not addressed in Kenndoff.

In Kenndoff, the wound dressing is described as possibly using a polyurethane sheet as a backing material. A "sheet" necessarily is stiffer than either a gel or a "foam" and fulfills an entirely different function(i.e., one of containment and not cushioning).

More importantly, the Kenndoff patent does not disclose how the backing is attached to the gel foam. The current invention makes it very clear that the bonding is only between the gel and foam elements of the cushion(i.e., no

adhesive is used). This is shown in the description on page 2 at line 23. The description of the backing sheets in column 10, line 38-40 of the Kenndoff patent indicate that an adhesive can be one of the layers. Thus, Kenndoff would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that an adhesive is required to join two different polymeric materials.

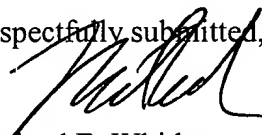
Dependent claims 71-74 address the configuration of layers in relation to one another which contribute to the functionality and comfort of a seat cushion and would not be beneficial or necessary for wound dressing applications.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 70-74 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400
Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No.: 30743